



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

Mr. David Pardo
Address: 4854 Eisenhower Avenue
Unit 447
City: Alexandria
State/Province: VA
Zip Code/Postal Code: 22304

OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATION
AND RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT

Dear Mr. Pardo,

Your Freedom of Information Act request dated September 13, 2013, in which you requested, *I seek any and all copies of code(s) of ethics that apply to the agency's administrative judges, hearing examiners, or administrative law judges, aside from the standard ethics provisions available at 5 C.F.R. 2635 et. seq. Specifically, but without limiting my general request, I am looking for any judicial or adjudicative codes of ethics that might apply here.* Your request has been designated as EPA-HQ-2013-009959 and assigned to the Office of Administration and Resources Management for response.

In response to your inquiry we would like to inform you the U.S. Office of Government Ethics has opined that the only code of ethics for federal ALJs is the standard code for federal employees, unless a specific agency has informed its ALJs that they are subject to some other code, which EPA has not done. More generally, EPA's ALJs are bound by the ethical rules of whatever state bar association they are individually members of, to the extent those state ethics rules apply to an ALJ's judicial capacity.

If you have any concerns, you may appeal this response in writing to the National Freedom of Information Act officer at:

Records, FOIA and Privacy Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2822T)
Washington, DC 20460
Fax: (202) 566-2147
Email: hq.foia@epa.gov

Please note that only correspondence mailed through the United States Postal service can be delivered to the address above. If you would like to deliver your appeal in person, via courier service or via an overnight delivery service, you must address your correspondence to 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW Room 6416J, Washington, DC 20001.

Your appeal must be submitted not later than 30 days from the date of this letter and should include the request number listed above. The EPA will not consider appeals received after the 30



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calendar-day limit. For the quickest possible handling, the appeal letter and its envelope should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

We greatly appreciate your patience during the government shutdown. Please know that we are committed to transparency and consider it a privilege to serve the American people as we advance our mission to protect health and the environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Bruce Franklin", is written over the typed name.

Bruce Franklin